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cont

slidably mounted within one of the attachment members, and a cam element mounted on the hinge pin in a space between the attachment members. The cam element is engaged with the slide pawl to maintain engagement with the ratchet portion of the attachment member when the hinge pin is retained in a torsion spring load position. This construction permits relative rotation of the attachment members for adjustment of an inclined angle of a backrest. In the reclining mechanism, a thrust member is coupled with one of the attachment members and welded to a frame structure of the back rest allowing the device to be assembled as a unit.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 2 and 9 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A reclining mechanism for a vehicle seat, comprising:

a first attachment member mounted to a first frame structure of a seat cushion of said vehicle seat;

a second attachment member mounted to a second frame structure of a back rest of said vehicle seat, said attachment members being coupled with each other at an outer periphery of said attachment members and connected by means of a hinge pin for relative rotation about said hinge pin, and

cam means mounted on said hinge pin in a space between said attachment members for restricting relative rotation of said attachment members when said hinge pin is retained in position under load of a torsion spring assembled thereon and for permitting relative rotation of said attachment members for adjustment of an inclined angle of said back rest when said hinge pin is rotated against said load of said torsion spring;

wherein a thrust member is coupled with a selected attachment member selected from the group consisting of said first attachment member secured to said first frame structure and said second attachment member secured to said second frame structure to assemble said selected attachment member as unit.

2. (Amended) A reclining mechanism for a vehicle seat, comprising:

a first attachment member mounted to a first frame structure of a seat cushion of said vehicle seat;

a second attachment member mounted to a second frame structure of a back rest of said vehicle seat, said first and second attachment members being coupled with each

other at an outer periphery of said attachment members and connected by means of a hinge pin for relative rotation about said hinge pin, and

cam means mounted on said hinge pin in a space between said attachment members for restricting relative rotation of said attachment members when said hinge pin is retained in position and for effecting relative rotation of said attachment members for adjustment of an inclined angle of said back rest when said hinge pin is rotated;

wherein a thrust member is coupled with a selected attachment member selected from the group consisting of said first attachment member secured to said first frame structure and said second attachment member secured to said second frame structure to assemble said selected attachment member as unit.

9. (Amended) A reclining mechanism for a vehicle seat, comprising:

a first attachment member mounted to a frame structure of a seat cushion of said vehicle seat;

a second attachment member mounted to a frame structure of a back rest of said vehicle seat, said attachment members being coupled with each other at an outer periphery of said attachment members and connected by means of a hinge pin for relative rotation about said hinge pin;

a slide pawl slidably mounted within one of said attachment members to be moved toward and away from a ratchet portion on an inner periphery of a remaining attachment member; and

a cam element mounted on said hinge pin in a space between said attachment members and being engaged with said slide pawl for maintaining said slide pawl in engagement with said ratchet portion of said attachment member when said hinge pin is retained in position under load of a torsion spring assembled thereon and for disengaging said slide pawl from said ratchet portion when said hinge pin is rotated against said load of said torsion spring;

wherein a thrust member is coupled with one of said attachment members and welded to a frame structure selected from the group consisting of said frame structure of said back rest and said frame structure of said seat cushion to assemble said attachment members at a unit.

✓ Please add new Claims 10 and 11 as follows:

as 10. The reclining mechanism of Claim 1, wherein said first attachment member is an arm member for attachment to said first frame structure of said seat cushion, and wherein said second attachment member is a disk member coupled within said arm member.

11. The reclining mechanism of Claim 10, wherein said torsion spring is contained in a recessed portion formed in said arm member wherein said an inner end of said torsion spring is engaged with said hinge pin and an outer end of said torsion spring is engaged with an internal wall of said arm member.